

1 Finally, replacement cost and fair market
2 value was already rejected by the Commission as not
3 applying to poles in the Alabama Power Commission
4 order, Tab 48 of our binder. Replacement costs are
5 called particularly unsuited for valuing pole
6 attachments, Paragraph 53. The Commission rejected
7 any notion of fair market values being applicable to
8 pole attachments at the same time, saying there's no
9 non-monopoly market in pole attachments, Paragraph 55.

10 The Commission went on to say, Paragraph
11 57, why replacement costs could not be used to value
12 pole attachments, and among the reasons are that a
13 pole attachment does not displace the utility or
14 prevent it from licensing additional users.

15 So Gulf has no basis here for
16 distinguishing these binding Commission findings
17 rejecting replacement costs. It might argue that the
18 Commission has made these rulings before we attempted
19 to show full capacity or, in fact, crowding, but as we
20 just noted, what did Mr. Spain, their expert, say?
21 The replacement cost has nothing to do with full
22 capacity.

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1 And Mr. Spain did not consider these
2 Commission rulings at all ,a nd his failure to do so
3 is one major reason, along with the others set forth
4 in our pretrial brief, why we renew our challenge to
5 Mr. Spain's testimony.

6 So, in sum, the issue in this case is can
7 Gulf prove a legal right under a takings theory to
8 compensation greater than marginal cost, but there was
9 no testimony about what its marginal costs were except
10 Ms. Davis' distortion of the definition.

11 She said marginal costs are not the costs
12 that are caused by cable attachment, but the cost for
13 Gulf completely independent of who is on a pole to go
14 out and buy a new pole and replace today the
15 equivalent of space occupied by an attacher. Ms.
16 Davis admitted she doesn't know what the actual
17 incremental expenses are that are caused by my four
18 clients, and Mr. Spain said he had, quote, no idea
19 what Gulf's marginal costs are.

20 This is key because the whole proceeding
21 was intended to see if they could meet the APCO test
22 to sustain a claim for loss or damage in excess of

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1 marginal cost, but they don't even know what their
2 marginal costs of Complainant's attachments are. And
3 since they have no loss and don't even argue in their
4 proposed findings actually for a specific rate; they
5 say, "Oh, leave it to the parties to negotiate."
6 Well, that backing away from the 40-60 rate, Your
7 Honor, is very significant. Indeed, it's consistent
8 with their reliance on a hypothetical loss because
9 they cannot argue for a specific replacement cost rate
10 with no loss to substantiate it.

11 There are no damages or loss for Gulf to
12 measure, and therefore no entitlement for loss or
13 damages in excess of marginal costs in this case.

14 Thank you, Your Honor.

15 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Okay. Mr. Campbell,
16 five minutes.

17 MR. CAMPBELL: All right. I'm going to
18 start with the last point. We're not backing away at
19 all, Your Honor. We're trying to be reasonable.

20 In a free market you negotiate. We've
21 offered them the opportunity to negotiate. If they
22 want to stick with the 40-60, we're perfectly content

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1 to collect it. That is just outright misdirection on
2 their part that should not be countenanced to.

3 Let's hit a few points. They cite Clay v.
4 Humana for the proposition that our lost opportunity
5 to go out and lease two others, an important
6 distinction, not them at a higher rate, is important.
7 Let's read the case.

8 "The disclosure also did not deprive the
9 AMA of the opportunity to sell its intellectual
10 property at its market price to any willing buyers."
11 Okay?

12 That is exactly what we're talking about.
13 They have misrepresented the Clay v. Humana case.

14 They say that we have ignored the legal
15 principle announced in Alabama Power. No, sir, we
16 have not. What we have said is that we embrace the
17 legal principle, that is loss to the owner, but when
18 you reach the point of rivalry, just like the Alabama
19 court said, you have reached congruence that loss to
20 the owner is your fair market value of the property.

21 What did they say? A power company whose
22 poles are not full can charge only the regulated so

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1 long as the rate is above its marginal cost. But a
2 power company whose poles are, in fact, full can seek
3 just compensation. Just compensation is fair market
4 value, willing buyer, willing seller.

5 We have shown a market. They keep going
6 back to the Commission's finding there was no market.
7 There is now. There's evidence in this proceeding.
8 We've proven it. It's there. So we get it.

9 Let's go to the congruity issue. Back to
10 Alabama Power, and this is the Metropolitan case they
11 referenced, Mr. Cook referenced, earlier. They
12 compared poles to the railways at issue in the
13 Metropolitan case, and they said is the possibility of
14 crowding is perhaps more likely in the context of pole
15 space, however, and if crowded -- there's that word
16 again -- pole space becomes rivalrous.

17 If it's rivalrous, it's just like land.
18 It's the same analysis. All of this stuff about loss,
19 misdirection. We have proven a loss. It is the value
20 of the property.

21 All right. Let's talk about --

22 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: The value of the

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1 property --

2 MR. CAMPBELL: Is value of the property.

3 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: -- is the loss.

4 MR. CAMPBELL: -- is the loss, the lost
5 opportunity to lease to others in unregulated rates,
6 the fair market value rates, and we will show higher
7 value uses in must a moment. I'm going to get to that
8 point.

9 Quickly, Osmose. This is another one of
10 those "so what?" points. They make a big deal that
11 they only measure for crowding, not full capacity.
12 Osmose's information is not important for the legal
13 significance of crowding versus full capacity. It's
14 important for the objective criteria.

15 They went out and stuck a stick on poles
16 and made some measurements. We introduced the
17 evidence in this proceeding, and this Court determines
18 what the relevance or significance from a legal
19 perspective is.

20 It doesn't matter what label they put on
21 it, and again, Mr. Haroldson used the same
22 measurements when he talked about sources of crowding

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1 earlier. That is just a huge red herring.

2 Order of attachment, that Osmose didn't
3 look at the order of attachment. Nowhere in the 11th
4 Circuit opinion does it say you have to prove whose
5 fault the crowded condition is. It's not in there.
6 There's a snapshot. Is that pole crowded? If it's
7 crowded, it's rivalrous. If they take it when it's
8 rivalrous, they pay just compensation. It is a red
9 herring that we only surveyed Pensacola only.

10 What are they failing to point out when
11 they make that statement? They're failing to point
12 out that Mr. Bowen testified that Pensacola is
13 exemplary of their entire service area. This is not
14 a rural area. It's Panama City. It's Pensacola.
15 They're cities. It's just like the other areas in
16 their service territory.

17 What else? Let's keep going.

18 They say we come here with nothing
19 regarding higher valued use. Not true. Eric, can you
20 pull up that slide?

21 We did come in with signed contracts. We
22 came in with our signed contracts. We came in with

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1 their signed contracts. So we didn't come here with
2 nothing.

3 What are the higher valued uses? Our
4 witnesses talked about streetlights, transformers,
5 increased service capacity. They, in fact, admitted
6 that we were potential competitors of theirs, that the
7 whole reason they get mandatory access is because
8 anti-competitive. You guys might compete. You might
9 become a cable company. You might become a
10 telecommunications provider.

11 Ms. Kravtin testified to that.
12 Competition is a higher valued use, and the
13 opportunity, of course, we've mentioned to rent to
14 others consists of Clay, consists of takings
15 jurisprudence.

16 Let's go on. This concept of exclusion.
17 I am delighted to hear that Mr. Cook and I agree on
18 something: that Ms. Kravtin, indeed, testified that
19 exclusion is the touchstone of rivalry, and she also
20 testified, as I showed you earlier that make ready is
21 the methodology by which you avoid exclusion.

22 So it is crystal clear then that if you

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1 have to perform make ready, it's a rivalrous condition
2 on the pole. That we agreed about.

3 I want to talk about one last thing that
4 I think captures all of this, and it is Ms. Kravtin's
5 allusion to a parking lot, similar to the elevator
6 analogy that you used. And I think this will flesh a
7 point home.

8 I was walking down the street the other
9 day here in D.C. and walked by a parking lot, and
10 there was a little tripod sign out in front of the
11 parking lot that said "full," the parking lot full.
12 And I looked at it and I thought, "You know, not
13 according to Complainants' definition of full,"
14 because according to Complainants you can go in, you
15 could repaint the stripes, move the cars a little
16 closer together and make a few more spaces.

17 And if that doesn't work, then do you k
18 now what? I looked up, and there was a building on
19 one side, a building on the other, but nothing above.
20 You could just stack some more layers of the parking
21 deck up there. That's what they're trying to capture
22 here.

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1 That's not at full capacity. That's not
2 crowding. That's not a meaningful analysis, and that
3 is not what the 11th Circuit meant. They're looking
4 at a different 11th Circuit case, reading requirements
5 in that case that do not exist.

6 Quantifiable, identifiable buyer, and,
7 Your Honor, you picked up on this and asked him a
8 salient question: does the 11th Circuit say you have
9 to do all of that?

10 The answer is no. Nowhere in that opinion
11 does it say that. What it does say is that consistent
12 with regular takings law, once you reach rivalry,
13 you're looking at real property, a pole, congruous to
14 land, and you look at a hypothetical buyer, a
15 hypothetical lost opportunity, a lost opportunity
16 that can be quantified by your inability to go out and
17 sell that space to someone else at a market rate.

18 What they're attempting to do is turn this
19 on its head. They want to flip takings law and say,
20 "No, let's not talk about the real property. Let's
21 talk about hypothetical property, a pole that might
22 exist in the place of the pole that's there now, and

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1 we want you to find a real buyer. Bring him in. We
2 want to interview the management and we want to look
3 at their business plans. We want to see if they're
4 really viable."

5 That is nowhere in takings jurisprudence.
6 To go down that road would be to change hundreds of
7 years of precedence. It's ridiculous.

8 Let's go to the last page because this is
9 really demonstrative. Where do they want to take us?

10 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: One last point.

11 MR. CAMPBELL: This is my last slide, Your
12 Honor.

13 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: -- your time.

14 MR. CAMPBELL: They want to take us on a
15 road to nowhere. They have twisted takings
16 jurisprudence, added things into the 11th Circuit's
17 analysis to insure that we never get past the cable
18 rate.

19 What do I mean? Here's their analysis.
20 Is there currently room for another attacher on the
21 pole? If there is, you only get the cable rate. If
22 there's not, then let's ask can make ready be

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1 performed.

2 If it can, you only get the cable rate.
3 If it can't, then I want to see your actual buyer
4 waiting in the wings. Okay? And if you can't show me
5 John Brown ready to pay you something, then you only
6 get the cable rate.

7 If you can show me John Brown, did you
8 check him out? Is he competent? Does he have the
9 money to comply with the contract? Have you
10 negotiated all of the terms of the contract? Have you
11 checked his resume, his background?

12 That's what they say. That's what Ms.
13 Kravtin says. If you didn't, you only get the cable
14 rate, and if you did -- and this is the important
15 point -- their stacking of inferences in that last
16 paragraph I referenced, even if you did all of this,
17 that negotiation you get into, it must be a monopoly
18 rent anyway because any time you get more than the
19 cable rate from anyone, it's leveraged. It's
20 compulsion. It's a monopoly rent.

21 That's what they want you to sign off on
22 in Paragraph 513. So the end game for them is we just

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1 never get it.

2 That is not what the 11th Circuit meant.
3 IT's not what Judge Tjoflat meant. That's not how you
4 interpret that standard. I t just can't work.

5 Thank you, Your Honor.

6 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Okay. Thank you.

7 You have --

8 MR. COOK: Five minutes?

9 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Well, you've got six
10 minutes.

11 MR. COOK: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 Your Honor, I want to distill my longer
13 presentation to the core elements.

14 The 11th Circuit said they already get
15 much more than their marginal costs and they get just
16 compensation. It said fair market value is
17 inapplicable. An alternative must be used.

18 So then it set forward a specific
19 standard, and it said to get more you have to prove
20 these things, full capacity and the lost opportunity
21 through the buyer waiting in the wings or the higher
22 valued use.

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1 Whatever Your Honor thinks of the parties'
2 differing sides about crowding, full capacity, one
3 thing is clear. They sure haven't come forward with
4 a buyer waiting in the wings that couldn't be
5 accommodated, that was that missed or foreclosed
6 opportunity. They sure haven't come forward with any
7 sort of rudimentary analysis saying, "You're on such-
8 and-such a space. We should have been able to use
9 that. We wanted to put in some transformers here. We
10 lost out on a higher valued use." You don't see any
11 of that.

12 There simply is no loss, and one thing Mr.
13 Campbell loves to say, and in fact, if you go back and
14 look at the history of the briefs that we've cited in
15 footnotes and what have you is this should all be
16 about land. Let's get to land. Let's get to
17 congruence to land by showing only the first element
18 of the APCO test.

19 None of that is in the APCO opinion. The
20 APCO opinion said this is not like land. Poles may be
21 for practical purposes non-rivalrous and we have to
22 use an alternative, and then it went forth and it said

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1 is there a missed opportunity. Did you suffer
2 something where you couldn't rent to someone?

3 And it set up this two pronged test.
4 Things are full. People had to be excluded, and you
5 lost as a result. You either lost a third party or
6 you lost your own internal use. There was no loss,
7 and fair market value does not apply.

8 Even if hypothetically they had come
9 forward and shown they met the two APCO prongs, you
10 don't jump to fair market value. APCO said you don't.
11 An alternative must be used. You measure the amount
12 of the loss. That's the core principle in this case:
13 loss to the owner that John J. Felin & Co. cited in
14 APCO says you have the burden to show the loss and to
15 prove the amount of the loss.

16 And in this case there is simply no proof
17 that they could not accommodate somebody, and in the
18 absence of that proof, they already get more than
19 they're entitled to under the Constitution.

20 That's what I think Your Honor has to keep
21 in mind when you're thinking, well, what's fair in
22 this case because Mr. Campbell say Complainants have

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1 set an unmeetable test. We're going to keep chasing
2 our tails.

3 That is utterly irrelevant because they're
4 already given just compensation unless they come
5 forward with proof of a loss, either the third party
6 who couldn't get on or their higher valued use.

7 The pole attachment agreements that Mr.
8 Campbell referred in his rebuttal a moment ago to at
9 Tab 62 through 65 of his binder, those are all
10 instances of things where either unregulated parties
11 or parties who didn't enforce their rights to the FCC
12 because, as he highlighted, they have leverage and
13 they can say, "Pay us this or you won't get on."

14 Those people have all been successfully
15 accommodated. That's the difference. Nobody came to
16 them, said we want to get on, and they said, "Sorry.
17 You know, those four cable companies are on. We can't
18 help you."

19 In the end, I come back to the main
20 principle. The most important word in this case is
21 "loss." Gulf had to prove a loss. It has not.

22 Thank you, Your Honor.

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1 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Thank you.

2 Ms. Lien, anything?

3 MS. LIEN: We don't have anything, Your
4 Honor.

5 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Awfully quite. I was
6 hoping after -- I mean, the arguments were certainly
7 articulate and full and complete and covered anything
8 that certainly I could conceive of covering, and I was
9 hoping that after hearing it that I wouldn't have to
10 go and read the rest of the briefs, but I'm afraid I'm
11 going to have to do that. This has been very
12 educational for me, very informative, and fortunately
13 I will have the transcript of the arguments also.

14 So that concludes it. Your next offering
15 or your next filing is with respect to the reply
16 findings. Let's see. Those come in on August 16th.

17 MR. SEIVER: That's our understanding,
18 Your Honor.

19 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Okay, and I think
20 what I'll do is set something down in early September
21 for a short admission session on your composite
22 evidence.

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1 MR. COOK: Deposition excerpts.

2 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Exactly right, and
3 that's true on the confidential documents which come
4 in in sealed envelopes.

5 I still am troubled having given you
6 further guidance with respect to the documents that
7 have been marked as being confidential, which really
8 shouldn't have been.

9 MR. CAMPBELL: We're going to clean that
10 up, Your Honor, that week following or within that
11 two-week period following the submission of the reply
12 comments.

13 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Yeah.

14 MR. CAMPBELL: We anticipate having a
15 session up here jointly to address that issue, and we
16 will clean it up consistent with your advice.

17 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: Well, that shouldn't
18 involve me.

19 MR. CAMPBELL: Right. No, no, I don't
20 think you would have to.

21 MR. COOK: I thought when you said have a
22 session you meant a session that His Honor is talking

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1 about for just after Labor Day.

2 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: No.

3 MR. CAMPBELL: I think we have to do both.

4 MR. COOK: Right, but in court we have to
5 do the --

6 MR. CAMPBELL: Correct. We need to have
7 one outside the presence of the Judge to clean up the
8 documents and make sure we have all of our ducks in a
9 row from an evidentiary perspective, and then we have
10 to have one with the Judge to formally introduce the
11 composite deposition exhibits into evidence.

12 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: That's right, and to
13 receive back, to substitute the sealed manual for
14 what's in the record now.

15 MR. CAMPBELL: Correct.

16 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: All right. I commend
17 counsel. Can't ask for anything more.

18 PARTICIPANTS: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 CHIEF JUDGE SIPPEL: It's 20 of 11, and
20 we're in recess until my further order.

21 Thank you very much.

22 (Whereupon, at 10:41 a.m., the matter was adjourned.)

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Name of Hearing

EB DOCKET NO. 04-381

Docket No. (if applicable)

445 12th STREET, S.W., WASHINGTON, D.C.

Place of Hearing

JULY 6, 2006


Date of Hearing

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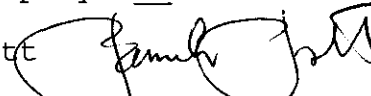
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